(2) Enhancing and maintaining the competitiveness of India as a tourism destination;

(3) Improving India's existing tourism products and expanding these to meet new market requirements;

(4) Creation of world class infrastructure;

(5) Developing sustained and effective marketing plans and programs;

(6) Special trust to rural and small segment tourism; and

(7) Attention to civilisation issues and issues pertaining to civic administration, good governance and also of social and cultural values.

Development of rural tourist spots

†1750. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to develop tourist spots in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of the rural tourist spots earmarked for this purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to attract foreign tourist towards rural tourist spots?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Department of Tourism, Government of India has proposed to develop tourist spots in rural areas in the Tenth Five Year Plan.

(b) Decision to identify rural tourist spots will be taken after the approval of the scheme by the Planning Commission.

(c) The steps to attract foreign tourist towards rural tourist spots include improvement of the environment, hygiene, infrastructure etc.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.